

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

The priority papers were filed with the original application papers and their receipt was acknowledged in the above-mentioned Examiner's Action. The undersigned hereby reiterates the priority claim made in the earlier-filed Declaration.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. Extreme care has been exercised so that no new matter whatsoever has been added.

The claims have been replaced with a set of US-style claims drafted to define the invention with greater particularity over the art.

As amended the claims now recite a hand tool that is fitted to a seat in a wall of a motor vehicle, that is releasably latched in place there, and that is formed with a throughgoing hole so that it can be removed and used. The tool is defined in the dependent claims as an ice scraper, screwdriver, bottle opener, or flashlight. Further dependent claims describe how the hole that allows the tool to be gripped and removed from its holder also is dimensioned to receive a beverage can, so that the tool forms part

of a standard cup holder that, according to another claimed feature, is part of a center console. Nothing like this is suggested in the cited art.

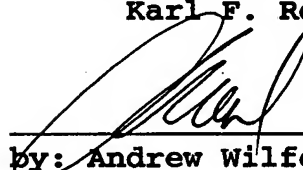
More particularly, not a single one of the four applied references - US 5,054,668 of Ricchuiti, US 5,509,633 of Ruster, US 5,865,411 of Droste, and JP 2002316572 of Mitsuru (assigned to Suzuki) - has anything resembling a hand tool. They all show various after-market car accessories that can hold things or be cup holders, but none where an integral part of the accessory can be pulled off and used as a tool.

Thus the instant invention is clearly allowable over the cited and applied art. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this

case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Enclosure:                      Substitute Abstract  
                                    Corrected version of specification  
                                    Substitute Specification